

To: Interested Parties and the Press

From: Simone Kanter, Communications Director for Congressman Dan Goldman (NY-10)

Date: April 18, 2023

Re: Congressman Dan Goldman's First 100 Days in the U.S. House of Representatives

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"His uncommon experience, particularly his knowledge of congressional oversight and the rule of law, could prove especially valuable in Congress in coming years."

- New York Times Editorial Board -

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#### I. Introduction:

Since taking office at the beginning of the year, Congressman Dan Goldman has hit the ground running in Washington D.C. and at home in NY-10. He has quickly positioned himself as a forceful and effective defender of Democracy and of his district, especially among vulnerable and forgotten communities.

From <u>securing travel approval</u> for a local community organization to send 22 DACA recipients to Mexico City for an enriching educational experience and <u>fixing mail boxes at the Campos Plaza II</u> NYCHA complex, to <u>fighting for an ambitious expansion of voting rights</u> alongside the Rev. Al Sharpton and earning a <u>100 percent voting record from Planned Parenthood</u>, Goldman has proven his ability to lead and serve as a compelling messenger on the most pressing issues facing both his constituents and the nation.

He has been at the forefront of pushing back on extremist Republican overreach and the QAnon Caucus that Speaker McCarthy has stacked the Oversight Committee and Weaponization Subcommittee with. The "specificity of Goldman's knowledge has caught Committee Republicans off-guard," his performance in committee hearings has been cited as "tying Republicans up in knots," and he has "unraveled GOP hopes" for attacking President Joe Biden.

Uplifting the voices of his most vulnerable constituents and serving as a bulwark against right-wing extremism have been the guiding principles of the beginning of his tenure. And while he has been able to take on big fights on the national stage, he has put fighting for families in his district first.

# **II.** Defending NY-10 First

**Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso said:** "Whether it's working together to cut down on helicopter noise and air pollution, fighting side by side for NYS DOT to come to the table on a corridorwide BQE redesign, or partnering to bring constituents critical information on the resources available to them, Rep. Dan Goldman has quickly proven himself a relentless advocate for the people. As we strive for a Brooklyn for all, I'm grateful that NY-10 has Rep. Goldman at the helm."

As a former Staffer on the House Intelligence Committee and the lead counsel for the first impeachment of former president Donald Trump, Dan Goldman entered office as perhaps one of the most experienced and nationally recognizable freshman members of Congress.

But instead of focusing all his attention on national issues, he has spent the majority of his time on delivering for NY-10 and the unique challenges facing the city of New York – including by defying the Congressional norm and allocating the majority of his office budget on his district offices and staff.

Since taking office, Goldman's team has helped more than **517 constituents** resolve an issue with a federal agency and has returned more than **\$31,000 to constituents** from federal agencies.

#### a. Maximizing the Bully Pulpit

Congressman Goldman recognizes that the office he holds affords him a platform and a voice to advocate for his constituents at the State and Local level. And working with his colleagues at the State and Local level he has used his position to fight for supplementary federal funding that would enable progress on a host of issues of concern to his district – from criminal justice reform to utility assistance for low-income New Yorkers.

- Politico NY: LIHEAP Funding Ask: "New York's congressional delegation, led by Rep. Dan Goldman, is pressing for more funding to help low-income households with their utility bills. They're asking for \$500 million in additional money for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program."
- Congressman Dan Goldman Calls for Passage of Elder Parole and Fair and Timely Parole Bill in Albany: "NY should enact the Release Aging People in Prison Campaign's Elder Parole and Fair & Timely Parole bills to create pathways to release for people who are ready to re-enter and contribute to society. It's the right thing to do and the estimated \$522m in annual savings can be reinvested in community safety."
- Congressman Dan Goldman <u>Calls for NYCHA ERAP Funding</u> in State Budget: "As we make our recovery from the pandemic, NYCHA tenants are every bit as deserving of rental assistance and more as other New Yorkers. Thank you to Assemblymember Grace Lee and State Senator Brian Kavanagh for fighting to provide emergency rental relief for public housing residents across NY."

#### b. Immigration Reform and the Migrant Crisis

As the nation, and New York in particular, continues to struggle with a historic influx of new migrants, Congressman Goldman has taken action.

• <u>The Hill</u>: House Democrats call to double immigration backlog processing funds: "Two House Democrats are calling on budget appropriators to double President Biden's request for funding to process immigrant application backlogs."

Goldman was the first member of the New York City Congressional delegation to visit a Humanitarian Emergency Response and Relief Center in February of 2023.

• WCBS: Officials: Housing facility for asylum seekers at Brooklyn Cruise Terminal is about half full: "Goldman said the shelter is about half full and it will ultimately house about 1,200 single men. "It is certainly not an ideal situation for anyone, but under the circumstances, it's really admirable, I think, what the city has done," Goldman said.

Following up on a central campaign promise to pursue comprehensive immigration reform and reduce the backlog of immigration cases that are in large part fueling the crisis, Goldman has worked to cut redtape and expedite asylum seeker work authorization.

- Congressman Dan Goldman Pushes to Speed Up Asylum Seeker Work Authorization Process: "As New York and the nation continues to welcome a growing number of asylum seekers, and as many businesses suffer from labor shortages, we must do everything we can to expedite the process through which new arrivals can begin to work in our city," Congressman Dan Goldman said. "When I visited the Brooklyn Cruise Terminal Humanitarian Emergency Response and Relief Center in my district, the most common request from migrants staying there was to get lawful work. Likewise, the business community has expressed a need for more workers. This legislation will cut through burdensome red-tape and address a core issue in our immigration process and our economy."
- WNBC: NY Migrants Wait Months for Work Authorization Cards, Preventing Them from Getting Jobs: "It's months of extra waiting that are completely unnecessary," says Rep. Dan Goldman, describing the federal law that requires asylum seekers to wait five months to apply for working papers and six months before they can become eligible.

# c. Public Housing and NYCHA

The New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) is the largest public housing authority in the nation, and Congressman Goldman's district has more than 30 NYCHA developments. Upon taking office, Goldman wasted no time in getting to work on fighting for NYCHA tenants, pulling every lever possible to fix problems big and small.

**New York State Assemblymember Harvey Epstein said:** "Having partners in government who you can effectively work with only provides greatness for constituents. It has been great working with Representative Dan Goldman and having him as a partner to fight for some of our most impacted communities, especially NYCHA residents. Whether it's supporting Riis residents through public health concerns or First Houses residents in their relocation, Representative Goldman has been an effective partner in his first 100 days."

**Tenant Association President of Meltzer Towers Terry Capuzano said,** "Getting to know and work with the office of Congressman Dan Goldman has been great for the residents of Meltzer Towers. He has been

one of the strongest supporters we've had in a long time. Even with the challenges of working with NYCHA, it feels like we finally have a strong and functional office to support us."

One of the first pieces of legislation he introduced was the <u>Public Housing Emergency Response Act</u> alongside Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez, which would allocate \$70 billion to address public housing capital repair backlogs nationwide, \$32 billion of which would flow directly to NYCHA.

- News 12: Elected officials pushing for billions of dollars more in NYCHA funding
- <u>The Village Sun</u>: Goldman-Velázquez bill would tag \$32 billion for New York City public housing repairs

Creativity in applying his legal mind to tackle entrenched problems, like NYCHA funding shortfalls, has been a hallmark of Goldman's tenure. In his first 100 days, Goldman identified that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has been flouting federal law and only allowing NYCHA to retain half of the savings that NYCHA earns from aggressively negotiating with utilities.

 As part of the FY 2024 budget process, Goldman led a multi-member letter which called on Congress to require that HUD comply with the law and reimburse certain Public Housing Authorities for 100 percent of the savings <u>they</u> negotiated, which would provide NYCHA with an estimated \$50 million per year to be dedicated to critical building repairs.

While pushing for holistic legislative solutions in Washington, Goldman's office has worked diligently on the ground to address the various day to day concerns of his constituents living in NYCHA developments.

• Earlier in the year, Goldman's office was notified that the residents of the Campos Plaza II development, including seniors, were unable to access their mailboxes in the building and had to travel multiple blocks to pick up their mail at the Stuyvesant post office in the middle of winter. The mailboxes needed a new 'arrow lock' from USPS. The lack of access to mail made it difficult for residents to receive their social security benefit verification letters as well as medical documentation.

Goldman's office coordinated with local elected partners, NYCHA and USPS to fix issues in one of the development's 17-floor buildings so that senior residents can once again access their mail without having to brave the elements to go to the post office.

# d. Coastal Resiliency and Environmental Justice

Chairperson of Manhattan Community Board 1 Tammy Meltzer said, "The 118th Congress has some newsmakers, but Dan Goldman is standing out for all the right reasons. In Washington, he is working to strengthen the 9/11 Victim's Compensation Fund and speaking truth to those who would minimize the attacks on the Capitol on January 6th. Here at home, he has already seized on some of the biggest and most complex issues facing both the 10th Congressional District and the entire region in terms of climate change and resiliency. We were proud to hold a joint townhall with Representative Goldman and saw firsthand how his leadership will be key to bringing all levels of government together to safeguard the public realm and public funds. I am looking forward to another incredible 100 days."

Large swaths of Congressman Goldman's district in downtown Manhattan and the Brooklyn waterfront are coastal communities, uniquely vulnerable to the catastrophic effects of climate change and still reeling from the aftermath of Hurricanes Ida and Sandy.

Goldman has approached the issue with a characteristic combination of long-term vision and immediate practical solutions. In Washington, as House Republicans introduce bill after bill attempting to strip away hard-fought environmental protections, Goldman has fought hard to put a stick in the spokes of the Republicans' legislative process.

- Congressman Dan Goldman <u>Offers Coastal Communities Amendment</u> to Republican 'Polluters Over People' Act and <u>Green Equity Amendment</u> to the GOP's Big Oil Bill
- Congressman Dan Goldman <u>Fights Big Oil Profiteering</u> to Reinvest in Communities on Frontlines of Climate Change
- Washington Post: GOP beats back Democratic climate amendments to oil bill: "Rep. Dan Goldman (D-N.Y.) proposed an amendment that would condition releases from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve on commitments to uphold the Paris agreement and the Justice40 Initiative."

And he has used his influence to support state-level efforts to address climate change.

New York Times: In Rare Show of Force, House Democrats Pressure Hochul on Climate Bill:
"Several influential members of New York's congressional delegation are pressuring Gov. Kathy
Hochul to embrace a climate bill that would compel the state to build wind and solar energy
projects when private industry falls short of state environmental goals."

More immediately, Goldman identified and addressed an unacceptable lack of communication with members of the community and coordination between the various federal and state agencies responsible for multi-billion-dollar resiliency efforts taking place on the coastal areas of his district.

- Congressman Dan Goldman Convenes Townhall to Improve Collaboration on Climate Resiliency Projects: "Due to the multitude of projects that are happening simultaneously by a number of different agencies, there is often confusion and a lack of collaboration between agencies responsible for these projects, and the communities these projects happen in are too often left out of the process. Congressman Goldman convened this meeting to address these concerns and lay the foundation for better communication going forward."
- Congressman Dan Goldman <u>Brings US Army Corps of Engineers to the Table</u> to Hear Input from Community on Planned Climate Resiliency Projects: "Congressman Goldman hosted a town hall yesterday with Brooklyn Community Board 6 in which the US Army Corps of Engineers presented to the community on climate resiliency engineering proposals in the USACE New York-New Jersey Harbor and Tributaries Study (HATS). Prior to the town hall, USACE has not provided a public presentation on proposals in the project specific to Gowanus and Red Hook."
- <u>BK Reader</u>: Brooklyn Waterfront Neighborhoods Are Considering Installing 17-Foot-Tall Floodgates: "Rep. Dan Goldman and Brooklyn Community Board 6 hosted a Zoom town hall on

Monday in coordination with USACE Project Manager Bryce Wisemiller to present the plan for the Red Hook and Gowanus area."

# III. Uniquely Qualified to Defend Democracy and Proving It

# a. Meeting the Moment

Dan Goldman ran for Congress on the promise that his unique expertise and background in a large and accomplished field best positioned him to meet this political moment.

- New York Times Editorial Board: "His uncommon experience, particularly his knowledge of congressional oversight and the rule of law, could prove especially valuable in Congress in coming years."
- Rolling Stone: Dan Goldman Has an Impossible Job. He Can't Wait to Start: "He was the lead lawyer on Trump's first impeachment. Now Democrats are counting on him to thwart Republicans' plan to mainstream a host of right-wing conspiracies."

In his first 100 days in Congress, Goldman has quickly emerged as one of the most consistent and effective bulwarks against Republican investigative overreach on the Oversight Committee and the Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government (or as the Congressman prefers to call it, the 'GOP Subcommittee to Obstruct Justice').

Before officially taking the Majority, House Republicans explicitly telegraphed that they were going to abuse Congress' oversight prerogative as a political weapon against democrats in the 2024 election cycle.

"All those things need to be investigated just so you have the truth," [Rep. Jim] Jordan told
conservative activists last summer at a conference. "Plus that will frame up the 2024 race when
I hope and I think President Trump is going to run again and we need to make sure that he wins."

As a prosecutor in the Southern District of New York for 10 years and the lead counsel for former president Trump's first impeachment, Congressman Goldman has used his extensive experience to meticulously dissect and shed light on the bogus nature of many of the conspiratorial rabbit-holes the House GOP has tried leading the American people down.

• Bloomberg: Trump Impeachment Veteran Debunks GOP Accusations Against Biden

"The specificity of Goldman's knowledge seemed to catch the Republicans off-guard. But Goldman suggested this was all well-known, or should have been, from Trump's first impeachment and trial."

"[Oversight Chairman] Comer asked Goldman several follow-up questions but had no immediate counter-arguments. Instead the Kentucky Republican moved the hearing along and suggested a bathroom break."

#### b. Holding Bad Actors Accountable

While he has successfully made the transition from law enforcement to elected government, there is one habit Congressman Goldman just can't kick – holding bad actors and those who abuse the public trust accountable.

One of Goldman's <u>first acts in Congress</u> was to file an official ethics complaint against George Santos (who is "reminiscent of every fraud defendant Goldman has ever faced in court") for defrauding the voters of New York's Third Congressional District. In part due to Goldman's relentless pressure campaign, a steady drip of revelations about Santos's fraudulent, and likely criminal, past have surfaced, and Republican Party Leaders like Speaker Kevin McCarthy and Congresswoman Elise Stefanik have been forced to answer for their continued and morally bankrupt support of the disgraced Congressman.

The result? Confirmation from the House Ethics Committee that they are actively looking into George Santos's numerous alleged violations.

• New York Times: House Ethics Committee Opens Inquiry Into George Santos: "Two Democratic lawmakers from New York, Representatives Daniel Goldman and Ritchie Torres, first requested an ethics investigation of Mr. Santos in January, focusing largely on whether he broke the law when he filed required financial disclosures late and with key details missing."

### IV. Off on the Right Foot

"Goldman has fashioned his life as that of a workhorse more than a show horse." - Moment Mag

Congressman Goldman has sprinted out of the gate and doesn't plan on slowing down. He has proven that his experience and skill set are uniquely valuable in today's political climate, especially as Donald Trump's indictment looms large and Republicans on the Hill reflexively wage a disinformation campaign to protect the former president.

Goldman's clear voice, familiarity with the American legal system, and ability to effectively communicate are an invaluable asset in ensuring those who are committed to the rule of law and an impartial judiciary do not cede the fight in the court of public opinion. And it has proven invaluable to his district.

As he progresses through his first year in Congress and into his second, Goldman will continue to elevate the voices of those communities in his district that for too long have gone unnoticed and underserved. He will continue to advocate and push the envelope on the issues that matter most to his constituents on the ground, from public housing investment to climate resiliency and the cost of living.

### V. Testimonials

**Congressman Jerry Nadler said**: "In only 100 days serving in Congress, Dan Goldman has already proven himself to be a tremendous partner in our work together for New Yorkers and our nation. From our efforts to advance congestion pricing to our fight to uncover answers for 9/11 families, I'm proud to have Dan serve alongside me in the House and know there is so much more we will accomplish together in the days ahead."

**Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez said:** "During the first 100 days of the 118th Congress, I've been proud to work with Rep. Goldman on issues critical to New Yorkers like increasing investment in public housing, protecting the environment in Brooklyn, and finding solutions to re-envision the BQE. For decades, I had the honor to represent parts of the new 10th congressional district, including the Lower East Side, Brooklyn Heights, Red Hook, Gowanus, and Sunset Park. I look forward to continuing to work with Rep. Goldman to improve the quality of life for our constituents and Americans nationwide."

**Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso said:** "Whether it's working together to cut down on helicopter noise and air pollution, fighting side by side for NYS DOT to come to the table on a corridorwide BQE redesign, or partnering to bring constituents critical information on the resources available to them, Rep. Dan Goldman has quickly proven himself a relentless advocate for the people. As we strive for a Brooklyn for all, I'm grateful that NY-10 has Rep. Goldman at the helm."

**New York State Assemblymember Jo Anne Simon said:** "After collaborating on critical issues facing Brooklyn for several months, I am confident that New York's 10th Congressional District is in good hands with Rep. Dan Goldman. We have been working closely together to push for a modern, climate-forward solution to the BQE triple cantilever and corridor; I am optimistic we will make progress on this front with his advocacy at the federal level. I'm looking forward to working with him on other pressing issues such as housing relief, reducing air and noise pollution from helicopters, and removing the toxicity from the Gowanus Canal area. By working together, we can accomplish much for the people of Brooklyn."

**New York State Assemblymember Harvey Epstein said:** "Having partners in government who you can effectively work with only provides greatness for constituents. It has been great working with Representative Dan Goldman and having him as a partner to fight for some of our most impacted communities, especially NYCHA residents. Whether it's supporting Riis residents through public health concerns or First Houses residents in their relocation, Representative Goldman has been an effective partner in his first 100 days."

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